

*Dropup*

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SOURCESMETHODSEXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2006

Source: [ ]  
4405 S. Maylawn  
Chicago, IL  
Jan. 12, 1963

Dear [ ]:

Thank you for your two notes.  
I regret I'm delay in answering  
them. I am trying to get my  
doctorate this February and am  
pressed for time. I am deluged  
in my correspondence to everybody.  
Nevertheless, here are a few notes  
concerning your last request -  
information on the religious life in  
contemporary Lithuania.

As I have told you earlier,  
several Lithuanian priests, including  
Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, met  
Lithuanian prelates that were  
participating in the Ecumenical  
Council in Vatican. Unexpectedly, I  
recently met Bishop Brizgys at  
a christening reception, where  
he provided several interesting  
observations from his conversations  
with the prelates of Lithuania.  
The prelates were in daily contact  
with the Catholic clergy from  
the West, especially with the  
Lithuanians since they resided in

The Lutheran Spiritual Academy  
in Rome. Bishop Boszegy suggests  
that the information he conveys  
us is not printable. However,  
I leave it up to your judgment.  
Here is a summary of the  
Bishop's comments.

1) The Catholic Church is isolate  
in various ways from youth, who  
according to the prelates, are  
extremely morally decadent. The  
formal teaching of Catholism is  
almost impossible. The Church is  
adjusting to this in various ways.  
First of all, apparently there are  
secret circles of young people  
who are dedicated to the teaching  
of religious truths to their peers.  
There are strict entrance requirements  
and a religious initiation into the  
circles. There is no indoctrination nor  
widely spread non-religious teaching  
is. No doubt, the Hungarian  
prelates have a good idea about  
it, but are unwilling to reveal  
the details of their operations for  
obvious reasons. There is no public

indication. But the regime is aware of this. No doubt, the security organs must have some idea.

2) The religious youth has pools their religious literature resources. They have not disclosed just

of what they have. The information was collected from various sources. Bishop Brizzi reported of a case where the regime publicly tried and convicted one director of such library. No announcement of the trial appeared in the press. The woman that was convicted reportedly had said publicly at the end of the trial: "I have done my part now you do yours." This report appears to be authentic. She can't. Bishop cited the name of the woman whose sister lives in Chicago.

3) How do the people from different views of fate? Right now they are more optimistic because they believe that the

regime inevitably has to evolve slowly toward a more human system; that despite all soviet pressure on religion, they have survived and, in fact, show signs of a mild revival; that the communist system itself is showing signs of disintegration. They believe that this will someday spell the doom to the soviet system; that the soviet experiment of developing communist morality has failed.

4) The prelates from Lithuania were attacked by a "journalist" who, according to the Bishop, was the political commissary of the delights. In fact, I read one of his dispatches appeared recently in Tiesa (in December). He is serving with the prelates in Rome suggesting the reasons for permission to the prelates to attend the Council. It is an interesting document on the regime and the Church has proscribed

purposes. An important point of  
the interview was that the  
Roman Church, especially Pope  
John XXIII, has made to him more  
of a spiritual and social  
program, and evokes the  
political crusade that Pope  
Pius XII carried on. The above  
are to which the Lithuanian  
Catholic Church is just, and  
the Church is willing to accept  
this for the few privileges  
that it has, is the peace  
campaign support, support for  
the peaceful-coexistence line  
throughout the world. Also, in the  
recent attempts to discredit the  
"benign nationalists", in the  
trials of the Nazi collaboration  
in the extermination of Jews  
and Russians, the clergy  
also played a notable role in  
the public condemnation of  
atrocities.

So much for the information  
on the religious life in Lithuania.  
I expect to have a talk on

of these days with one of the  
priests who was recently in Rome.  
At the moment, however, I  
am extremely occupied. I might  
suggest that perhaps you could  
make some arrangements to  
have a more systematic report  
on the meetings - ideas of the  
prelates from Lithuania, when  
my return from the next  
session of the Ecumenical  
Council. Please use your judgment  
what can be used publicly,  
if you find anything valuable  
in the note.

I will give you an opinion  
on the ELTA-B situation as soon  
as I can catch a breath from  
my work. Also I will make it  
a point to see Kevinska at  
the beginning of February. By  
now he should be somewhat  
more affected by the freedom  
of this country and I think  
therefore, he more willing to  
discuss things.

Till next letter, cordially yours [ ]